

GENERAL NOTES.

A New Duck for Massachusetts, *Nomonyx dominicus*.—A fine adult male specimen of *Nomonyx dominicus* (Linn.) was shot in a small pond near Malden, Mass., on August 27, 1889. It was brought to Messrs. Goodale and Frazar (93 Sudbury St., Boston) to be stuffed, and it was by the kindness of Mr. Goodale that I had the pleasure of examining it in the flesh. The color of the upper mandible was light blue with a narrow middle stripe of black. The feet were gray. This is, I believe, the first record for this species in Massachusetts, and the third for North America. (See Baird, Cassin, and Lawrence, B. N. A., p. 925 (1860); Cabot, Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., VI, p. 375, XIV, p. 154; and American Nat., V, p. 441.)—CHAS. B. CORY, *Boston, Mass.*

***Phalaropus lobatus* and *Phalaropus tricolor*.**—I saw four *Phalaropus lobatus* here June 18. Two killed were females with ova the size of No. 12 shot. I believed them to be last year's birds.

I came upon three *Phalaropus tricolor* at play the afternoon of May 16 just as the sun shone for the first time after a two days' cold storm of rain and snow. They were in shallow still water, about a foot apart, forming a triangle, and each kept in nearly the same place while they spun about rapidly like tops. They would often pause for a little while with bills pointing inward and then at the same moment resume their spin, each apparently doing its best to go the fastest. I watched them for ten minutes at less than twenty-five yards' distance, and their light graceful bodies riding like corks the little waves of their own making was a pretty sight. I reluctantly killed them and found them to be an old female and male and a last year's male.—P. M. THORNE, *Capt. 22d Inf., Fort Keogh, Montana.*

Nesting Habits of the Parrakeet (*Conurus carolinensis*).—While in Florida during February and March, 1889, I questioned everybody whom I met regarding the nesting of the Parrakeet. Only three persons professed any knowledge on this subject. The first two were both uneducated men—professional hunters of alligators and plume birds. Each of them claimed to have seen Parrakeets' nests, which they described as flimsy structures built of twigs and placed on the branches of cypress trees. One of them said he found a nest only the previous summer (1888), while fishing. By means of his pole he tipped the nest over and secured two young birds which it contained.

This account was so widely at variance with what has been previously recorded regarding the manner of nesting of this species that I considered it, at the time, as a mere fabrication, but afterwards it was unexpectedly and most strongly corroborated by Judge R. L. Long of Tallahassee. The latter gentleman, who, by the way, has a very good general knowledge of the birds of our Northern States, assured me that he had examined